







# ANNUAL REPORT

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JUL 1 1896

A U D I T O R S

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF LANDAFF,

FOR THE

Year Ending March 1, 1881.

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LITTLETON, N. H.  
JOURNAL BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.  
1881.

# AUDITORS' REPORT.

The undersigned, Auditors of the town of Landaff for the year ending March 1st, 1881, having attended to their duties, submit the following reports. The reputation of your town officers is too well established for honesty and integrity, to need any commendation from us. If we have not accomplished all that we might desire, we think the town will be satisfied with its financial standing, of which we have endeavored to give a true exhibit.

## RECEIPTS INTO THE TREASURY.

J. E. Hall, Collector for 1879,	\$596 03
Balance in Treasury, March 1, 1880,	526 75
Amount of town tax bill,	5039 93
Railroad tax,	27 14
Savings Bank tax,	249 85
Literary fund,	50 32
County of Grafton,	61 81
Town of Easton, for support of Wm. Howland,	41 97
Redemption of J. H. Allen's real estate,	10 90
Board of Geo. H. Clifford,	2 48
J. K. Young, highway tax,	1 80
Sarah McConnel, highway tax,	1 80
J. E. Hall, interest on taxes in 1879,	10 00
C. E. Clark, highway tax,	3 60
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	\$6,624 48

## EXPENDITURES.

Bonds and coupons due August 1, 1880,	\$2,262 74
State tax,	520 00
County tax,	875 42
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	\$3,658 16

## SCHOOL TAX.

School order, Center District,	\$133 32
“ “ district No. 1,	97 56
“ “ “ No. 2,	87 95
“ “ “ No. 3,	146 93
“ “ “ No. 4,	45 39
“ “ “ No. 5,	28 99
“ “ “ No. 9,	21 20
Lisbon village,	7 12
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	\$568 46

## COUNTY PAUPERS.

Support of Geo. O. Eastman,	\$37 14
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## TOWN PAUPERS.

Support of Wm. Howland and family,	\$137 02
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Support of Mrs. F. Stanley and family,	53 59
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	\$190 61
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## SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

John B. Noyes, 1st Selectman,	38 25
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William H. Atwood, 2d Selectman,	19 50
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Luke B. Chandler, 3d Selectman,	19 75
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Chas. E. Clark, Treasurer,	20 00
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Samuel A. Eaton, Superintending School Committee,	28 00
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Henry H. Noyes, Town Clerk,	16 72
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Timothy Clough, Overseer of the Poor,	12 00
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John E. Hall, Collector of taxes,	40 32
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Supervisors,	9 00
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Auditors,	5 00
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	\$208 54
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## MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES.

John B. Noyes, work on road,	\$10 20
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Geo. H. Sargent, running town line,	75
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A. F. McConnel, for lumber,	4 88
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K. W. Noyes, damage on plow,	1 50
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H. E. Parker, printing reports,	23 00
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	40 33
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Caleb K. Noyes, watering place and work on Highway,	7 75
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F. D. Burbank, work on Bungay road,	14 00
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L. D. Williams, " "	9 00
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" " work on road,	16 75
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Wm. Torsey, work on County road,	2 50
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James Eaton, cleaning vestry,	2 80
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John B. Noyes, stationery,	10 11
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Chas. E. Clark, Abatement of taxes,	1 65
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J. M. Johnson, land damage,	2 00
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Matthew Albee, bounty on hawk,	20
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C. J. Carpenter, building new road,	23 00
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Samuel A. Eaton, Harper's geography, furnished Frank Williams' daughter,	51
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L. D. Williams, lumber and work on road,	11 00
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J. B. and Rufus Chandler, work on road,	10 82
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C. H. Boynton, returning births and deaths,	1 75
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J. K. P. Young, public watering place,	3 00
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	\$116 84
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Wm. H. Atwood, bounty on hawk, paid to Fred E. Merrill and S. A. Eaton,	2 20
Philena Sargent, public watering place,	1 50
Luke B. Chandler, work on Bungay road,	1 50
Daniel Whitcher, work on road and lumber,	42 62
F. D. Burbank, work on Bungay road,	31 37
Stephen Brunson, interest on money to pay town bonds,	6 00
H. A. Ball, work on highway,	2 00
J. E. Hall, abatement of taxes, 1879,	6 48
D. A. Bartlett, work on Bungay road,	7 50
J. E. Hall, abatement of taxes, 1880,	4 48
Charles L. King, plank furnished,	4 57
Israel Young, public watering place,	3 00
J. E. Hall, discount on taxes, 1880,	40 75
F. P. Noyes, plank, timber, and public watering place,	37 44
John F. Gale, work on highway,	1 75
H. N. Whitcher, plank, and work on highway,	5 26
J. B. Noyes, cash paid O. H. Boynton, and work on Bungay road, etc,	8 47
J. E. Hall, taxes and cost on J. H. Allen's real estate at non-resident sale,	11 27
O. H. Boynton, returning births and deaths,	1 75
Rufus Chandler, abatement of tax on horse,	1 50
J. C. Atwood & Co., abatement of tax on stock in trade, not taxable,	13 44
Chas. E. Clark, public watering place,	3 00
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	\$395 02
In hands of Collector,	\$1,117 13
In hands of Treasurer,	449 42
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	\$6,624 48

## INDEBTEDNESS MARCH 1, 1881.

Town bonds,	\$7,676 46
Interest since August 1, 1880,	268 67
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	\$7,945 13

## AVAILABLE ASSETS.

Due from Easton for support of W. Howland,	\$44 81
Interest on Errol note due from Dec. 30, 1878,	84 50
Interest on Dalton note, from Dec. 1, 1878,	28 12
In Collector's hands,	1,117 13
In Treasurer's hands,	449 42
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	\$1,723 98

Indebtedness less available assets,	\$6,221 15
Decrease of indebtedness since Mar. 1, 1880.	\$2,263 12

## UNAVAILABLE ASSETS.

Town of Errol note	{ Local, }	\$650 00
Town of Dalton note,	{ School fund, }	250 00
		<hr/> \$900 00

## JOHN B. NOYES,—1st Selectman.

1880.	March 11, to	1-2 day warning town meeting,	\$ 75
	" 18,	2 1-2 days filling out and delivering inventory blanks,	3 75
	April 7,	5 days taking inventory,	7 50
	" 12,	copying inventory, etc.,	1 50
		4 days making taxes,	6 00
	" 29,	making out and returning the agricul- tural report to the Secretary of State,	3 00
	" 30,	1 day filling out Collector's warrant,	1 50
	May 18,	1 day distributing highway bills,	1 50
	June 26,	recording inventory and taxes,	3 00
	July 5,	1 day examining roads and engaging help,	1 50
	" 6,	1-2 day at school-house hill road hearing,	75
	Aug. 14,	" "	75
	Oct. 16,	1-2 day warning town meeting.	75
	Nov. 8,	1-2 day to let job to rebuild cemetery fence,	75
	Dec. 11,	1-2 day warning town meeting and revising juror box,	75
1881.	Feb. 19,	2 days settling claims against the town,	3 00
	" 22,	1 day with auditors,	1 50
			<hr/> \$38 25

## WILLIAM H. ATWOOD,—2d Selectman.

1880.	April 3, to	3 days taking invoice,	\$ 4 50
	" 30,	5 days making taxes, dividing school money, copying highway bills and making agricultural returns,	7 50
	July 6,	1-2 day to Blue school-house on road hearing,	75
	Aug. 14,	1-2 day surveying new road near Blue school-house,	75
	Oct. 16,	1-2 day making and posting warrants,	75
	Nov. 8,	1-2 day making arrangements for repairing cemetery fence,	75

1881. Feb. 19,	1 day calling town meeting and settling claims,	1 50
“ 22,	2 days settling with auditors,	3 00
		<hr/>
		\$19 50

LUKE B. CHANDLER,—3d Selectman.

1880. March 19,	to 1-2 day filling and distributing blanks,	\$ 75
April 9,	4 days taking inventory,	6 00
“ 12,	1-2 day copying blanks,	75
“ 30,	5 days making taxes, dividing school money, making agricultural returns etc.,	7 50
July 6,	1-2 day laying out road,	75
Oct. 16,	1-2 day making and posting warrant,	75
Dec. 11,	1-2 day making and posting warrant and revising juror box,	75
1881. Feb. 19,	2-3 day settling, and making warrant,	1 00
“ 22,	1 day settling with auditors,	1 50
		<hr/>
		\$19 75

HENRY H. NOYES,—Town Clerk.

To recording 41	1-2 pages,	\$ 7 11
“ “	13 births and copy to Secretary of State,	3 25
“ “	2 marriages and copy,	50
“ “	8 deaths and copy,	2 00
“ “	5 marriages,	63
“	drawing and notifying jurors, Sept., 1880,	75
“ “	“ “ Mar., 1881,	75
“	recording enrollment, 2 pages,	34
“	copy to Adjutant General,	34
“	postage and stationery,	1 05
		<hr/>
		\$16 72

HIRAM CLARK, }  
M. J. NOYES, } Auditors.





# REPORT OF THE Superintending School Committee

OF THE TOWN OF LANDAFF

*FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.*

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Another year has passed ; another year fraught with all its benefits and privileges, and again we are called to note a few things relating to the common schools of our town. We need not be told that our common Schools underlie and are the foundation of the glorious institutions of our happy New England—that they are both the foundation and the key-stone of that glorious arch on which rests not only our present happiness, but our future prosperity and greatness. For, as a general rule, the degree of education to which a people attain, the standard to which the masses measure up to, is a sure index of the moral standing of the commonwealth and the consequent happiness and security of the masses. The poet uttered a happy thought: “’Tis education forms the common mind,” and that all coming generations might be wise and secure the best education, and apply the best means and the most untiring efforts to its attainment, adds, “Just as the twig is bent the tree’s inclined.” Let us grasp the importance of this thought, remembering that the work of the past year on the minds of our youth is indelibly written as with the point of a diamond never to be effaced.

The common school is the spring and feeder of our higher institutions and capabilities, and if not aroused in them, if a higher plan of education, of morality, of enlightenment, in a word, if all that goes to make us a happy and prosperous people, resting securely on the highest plane of enlightened nations, is not commenced here, we shall surely never attain thereunto.

The common school is decidedly a New England institution which is being copied by other States of this Union, and this is another reason why we should continue and perfect the same, knowing that we are not only laying the foundation for the education of our own children and the consequent happiness of our own homes, but that our work shines out as a beacon light which excites not only the

admiration of the new States, but the unconquerable spirit of emulation. These facts being patent to us all, do we not see the great responsibility resting on us and the fearful reward attending the slothful servant?

Could our citizens see and feel the magnitude of the great mission of our schools, it would be impossible for us to be gliding on the current of the receding wave which is surely carrying us out to sea without chart or compass, "tempest tossed and driven" before the fury of the merciless waves of ignorance and inertness to be wrecked almost in sight of the harbor of security and happiness. Is it not high time that we shake off the dreadful inertia with which we are surrounded and arouse ourselves to the importance of the possibilities attainable to our boys and girls? Shall we rest quietly on, doing just what the strong arm of the law compels us to do, expecting somehow to come out all right in the great harvest time? A thousand times, NO!

But we are met just here with the oft repeated statement, "that we do not have as good schools as we used to have." Do you mean by this that our boys and girls are deficient in intellectual capacity? Because there are errors in the application of the principles of our common school system, or that the standard of elementary education has been lowered, shall we throw it completely down? Look at a few facts:

1. I would like here to mention the number of children in town between the ages of 4 and 21 years, such being legally scholars, (the enumeration was not made), but the teachers in the five winter schools report the whole number of scholars attending not less than two weeks, 110; average attendance, 95; meaning that 15 scholars have been absent every day of the term.

2. The law of the State provides that the funds known as the Savings Bank Tax, the Railroad Tax, and the taxes arising from the nuisance called *dogs*, may be appropriated for school purposes, and not one dollar is applied.

3. The statute provides that the town may raise money beyond that required by law and not one dollar is raised. I was required by the agent of the "Department of the Interior," to state "the total amount of money raised by taxation for school purposes in the districts of this town;" answer, nothing; and this is to be incorporated in the U. S. census reports.

In view of such facts what may we expect from our schools? But you say "we have more school money than we need to have." True; but the wages of teachers have advanced, and almost every district contributed board and fuel then, while District No. 4, is the only one that has thus contributed the past year.

In district No. 1, school order was \$9.567; paid for board and fuel, \$39.00.

In No. 2, school order was \$87.95; paid for board, fuel and repairs, \$37.60.

In Center district, paid for board and fuel, \$56.00.

These are a fair sample of the expenses in all of the districts; and hundreds of dollars were paid annually for instruction in seminaries and select schools out of town, while almost nothing is paid now. The result is, that while a few years since our schools averaged from 24 to 30 weeks each year, in addition to the academic instruction, the last year they averaged 19.5 weeks and nearly no academic instruction.

We have not space to notice further the many quibbles advanced against increasing the school fund, or to answer the many derogatory statements against our schools, but if something is not done to improve our schools and the educational standing of our scholars immediately, we shall soon find that there is a lower plane than the one now occupied. The inspired writer says truly: "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

## STATISTICAL TABLE.

No. of District.	Prudential Committee.	No. of Term.	Whole No. attending not less than 2 weeks.	Average attendance.	No. between 5 and attending school.	Number of visits by citizens and others.	No. attending to reading and spelling.	Number attending to penmanship.	No. att'g to arithmetic.	No. att'g to geography.	No. att'g to grammar.	No. attending to composition.	No. att'g to algebra.	No. attending to vocal music.	Selectmen's enumeration between 5 and 15 years.	No. between 5 and 15 not attending school.
No. 1.	Joseph Rich,	1	9	8		12	9		9	5	1				8	
		2	13	11	11	4	13		13	5	3					
No. 2.	H. H. Noyes,	1	9	8	9	2	9	8	30	15	8				11	
		2	30	26		17	30		30	15	8					
No. 3.	L. B. Chandler,	1	21	17	21	6	21	10	18	8	2	7			30	
		2	17	14	17	2	17	5	16	7	1					
		3	22	18	18	15	22	8	21	14	5					8
No. 4.		1	16	14	12	11	16	10	15	6	4		1		13	3
No. 5.	Mrs. Geo. W. Clement,	1	6	5	6	7	6	3	3	1				6	5	1
		2	8	8	8	4	8	5	6	4						
Center,	A. M. Poor,	1	21	20	21	17	21	10	10	7	1	5		8	22	
		2	29	29	22	36	29	19	19	12	6	12	3	20		
Union,	L. E. Kearns,	3	29	26	21	24	29	15	24	9	7	8	2			1
		1	11	8	11	7	11	6	7	3					2	



**DISTRICT NO. 1.**

The summer term of ten weeks, and the winter term of twelve were taught by Miss Mary Littlefield. Wages and board in summer \$15,00 per month, in the winter \$21,00. Mistaking the time of the closing of the summer term, I visited the school two weeks before the close. Everything appeared to be in good working order, the school a model of quietness and progress. At the close the school gave an exhibition in rhetorical, which was highly eulogized by the citizens present. The opening of the winter term gave evidence of a good school commenced, judge of my disappointment on my closing visit to find the pupils either wandering aimlessly about, or at play in their seats, one bright boy was sent to the black-board to perform an example in Equation of Payments, who proceeded to multiply the amounts due by the day of the month when they were due, for example  $\$400 \times 25$ , the 25th day of September. Miss Littlefield is an experienced teacher with us, of an extra record, till this term, and I am confident the failure does not result from any fault of her own. If children do not want to learn, the chances are they will not, but if they try they certainly will.

**DISTRICT NO. 2.**

Summer term was taught by Miss Myra Clark. Length eight weeks, wages and board \$11.60 per month. This was Miss Clark's first experience in teaching, and the result was quite satisfactory, giving, as far as we could learn, entire satisfaction to the district, a result very rarely obtained. We know no reason why she may not profitably continue in school work to good purpose.

Winter term was under the charge of Mr. Herbert Eaton. Length of school twelve weeks, wages and board \$22.67 per month. We found his the most advanced school in town, and the recitations gave evidence of good work done, and we are pleased to note this as the banner school of the year. Perhaps the severe criticism of last year may have had its designed effect, being good seed sown on good ground producing an hundred fold this year, with a good prospect of a thousand fold next year. "Watchman, what of the night?" "The morning dawneth." Citizens of No. 2, forward the good work commenced this year by giving your children an extra term of school in the fall of each year, they need and deserve it.

**DISTRICT NO. 3.**

The summer and fall term of eight weeks each, were under the tuition of Miss Ella Kimball. Wages and board \$15.00 per month. This should have been a golden opportunity to these children but the improvement was chiefly confined to a few of the smaller ones. Several of the children voluntarily left the school, saying "they could not learn anything." By a careful inquiry into Miss Kimball's methods of teaching, I am convinced that they are wholly inapplicable to the necessity of our common schools, and would suggest that there is a place for every one "in the world's great battle of life."

Winter term of fourteen weeks was taught by Miss Nellie Jones. Wages and board \$22.00 per month. On my first visit here, everything appeared well, except a few boys were slow in responding to the teachers bell at recess. In a short time rumors were flying, of disorderly conduct, which were followed by a petition of 31 of the prominent citizens, to dismiss the teacher from the school. A hearing being had, it appeared that about five of the boys considered themselves as being possessed of more physical strength than the teacher, and had therefore taken certain liberties which had been duly magnified in going the rounds of "they say." Miss Jones considered herself capable of carrying the school through, and we decided that she had better continue her work. We think that could Miss Jones have a fair chance she would teach a good school, but the progress here evidently received a check, from which the school will hardly recover this term, still some progress has been made, and we hope the boys here will redeem their character in the near future.

**DISTRICT NO. 4.**

The winter term, the only one for the year, was taught by Mr. Amos N. Blandin. Length 13 weeks; wages \$13.00 per month; board contributed. The recitations in Arithmetic, English Grammar, Geography and Algebra, gave evidence of a good commencement; the spelling was a little faulty. I was much pleased with the deportment of the school, and the good work commenced. Mr. B. is a beginner in teaching, but we hope he may long find a place as teacher in our schools.

**DISTRICT NO. 5.**

Summer term of 7 weeks was taught by Miss Blanche Clark. Wages \$9.00 per month. Miss Clark is not a new teacher with us, and we hope she may continue her school work in this town, believing her to be a faithful and successful worker in teaching.

Winter term of 7 weeks, taught by Bernard V. Child. Wages and board \$11.00 per month. We found him another beginner, aspiring for teacher's laurels. He was very lenient in enforcing school discipline, and granting useless wishes of the pupils. The scholars here are all of them young, but quite a good beginning was made. Special mention might be made of the classes beginning in Geography and Arithmetic, fully equal to those of adjoining districts *of the same age*.

**UNION DISTRICT.**

The single term of 6 weeks was taught by Miss Mary St. Claire. Wages and board \$14.00 per month. It is not often that much book education is required in 6 weeks, still a commencement was made, and we trust in the right direction. We think it might be advisable for this district and No. 4, to unite for school purposes according to the provisions of the statute for such cases.

**CENTER DISTRICT.**

Summer term of 12 weeks was taught by Miss Edith Bartlette. Wages and board, \$18.00 per month. Miss Bartlette is not a new teacher with us, and we have become accustomed to associate her name with "success," every time. She certainly possesses the natural talent for teaching in a large degree, and this associated with her winning ways make her a successful teacher, and a pleasant associate for our children.

Fall term of 8 weeks, taught by Miss Hattie Stickney. Wages and board \$20.00 per month. This was an extra term, which resulted from having a little school money that was not expended last year. Miss Stickney proved herself equal to the task undertaken, although not expecting advanced scholars from out the district.

The two prominent points noticeable were: (1) The excellent improvement of the smaller pupils. (2) The unprecedented good deportment of the scholars around and about the school room. Hope we may see her again in some of our schools.



Winter term of 13 weeks, was taught by Mr. Charles Buck. Wages and board \$24.00 per month. This should have been a school of high order to successfully follow two such schools as were held in the summer and fall terms. While something was done in the higher branches, still the general discipline, and advancement of the smaller pupils were quite unsatisfactory. Perhaps a better knowledge of the rudiments necessary to success might have been very admissible. The successful teacher will always prepare for recitations, that the pupils "may drink from clear running water."



## ROLL OF HONOR.

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The following are the names of pupils who have been present every half day of a term without being tardy:

### SUMMER TERM.

Mabel Bronson,	Jennie E. Whitcher.
Mary Whitcher,	Anna Bell Merrill,
Ada Burbank,	Belle Whitcher,
Nettie Stimson,	Effie E. King,
Flora May Austin,	Arvilla F. Clement,
Melinda Simonds.	
W. Burton Rich,	Benton Stimson,
Wilbur F. Noyes,	Frank A. Noyes,
Henry Gordon.	

### FALL TERM.

Phebe Whitcher,	Mary Poor,
Mary Whitcher,	Lulu Fisk,
Fannie Gordon,	Lelia Fisk,
Nettie Kendall,	Grace Webster,
Melinda Simonds,	Hattie Poor,
Jennie Louise Chandler.	
Herbert Eaton,	Frank Poor,
Arthur Simonds,	Allen Hodge,
Sidney Eaton.	

### WINTER TERM.

Mabel Bronson,	Jennie E. Whitcher,
Etta C. Bartlette,	Mary B. Bartlette,
Lizzie M. Bartlette,	Merta B. Prescott,
Louise Chandler,	Carrie Hall,
Dora D. Clement,	Aevilla F. Clement,
Fannie Gordon,	Mary Whitcher,
Hattie Poor,	Mary Poor.
Harley F. Bronson,	Wm. M. Bronson,
Ezra C. Burbank,	Charles Gale,
Kimball W. Noyes,	Frank C. Poor,
Henry Gordon,	C. C. Whitcher.

**CENTER DISTRICT.**

Names of scholars who did not whisper :

**FALL TERM.**

Phebe Whitcher,  
Nettie Kendall,  
Melinda Simonds,

Fannie Gordon,  
Mary Whitcher,  
Grace Webster,

Mary Poor.

Herbert Eaton,  
Arthur Simonds,

Frank Foor,  
Allen Hodge,

Sidney Eaton.

**WINTER TERM.**

Fannie Gordon,  
Hattie Poor,

Mary Whitcher,  
Lulu Fisk.

Charles Whitcher.

I have encouraged the practice of vocal music in our schools, and am pleased to mention excellent classes in Center District, summer and fall terms, winter term in No. 2, summer and fall terms in No. 3, and summer term in No. 5. Hope we may soon have vocal music taught in all our schools. In conclusion I most sincerely hope that a brighter era may soon dawn, not only on our educational interests, but on all of our interests that serve to increase our general welfare, remembering "that he who is a means of benefiting his own town, deserves a niche in the Temple of Fame."

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. EATON, Committee.





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Reports

1879-1901

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